

MARYLAND BOARD OF PHARMACY - COVID-19 Update

April 9, 2020 Announcements

Updated April 17, 2020

Exams:

The Board understands that all Pearson Professional Centers were closed to testing for a period of time, making it impossible for applicants to complete the NAPLEX and MPJE exams. NABP has communicated to the Board that, as of March 31, 2020, 130 Pearson testing sites have reopened across the country, with plans to reopen the remaining locations some time in April. PLEASE NOTE: The Board has recently learned that none of the reopened Pearson VUE testing centers are located in Maryland, Virginia, or the District of Columbia. Please contact Pearson directly for plans about opening testing centers in these jurisdictions.

Due to limited capacity and significant demand, it may take longer than usual to receive a test date. Rescheduling a date offered by Pearson may also result in lengthy delays, so they are recommending every effort be made to avoid rescheduling a test. For further information, please check the Pearson and/or NABP websites.

Criminal Background Checks:

The Board has received a number of inquiries related to criminal background checks, specifically related to difficulties in fingerprinting.. Although all CJIS MVA locations remain closed, the CJIS Fingerprinting Storefront located at 6776 Reisterstown Road, Baltimore, is now open for fingerprinting (please note, fingerprinting is currently BY APPOINTMENT ONLY at this facility). In addition, the Board understands a number of private fingerprinting facilities remain open. Please check the CJIS website for further information, at <https://www.dpscs.state.md.us/publicservs/fingerprint.shtml>.

Live Continuing Education:

Pursuant to Governor Hogan's March 12, 2020 Executive Order, all licenses set to expire during the state of emergency have been extended until 30 days after the state of emergency is terminated. The Board, however, understands that many pharmacists may want to renew their licenses during the state of emergency. The Board also understands that many "live" continuing education courses and conferences have been canceled for the foreseeable future. As such, the Board has determined that it will waive the requirement that two (2) hours of continuing education be obtained via live instruction for pharmacists who renew their licenses during the state of emergency.